CONTRIBUTED AND SELECTED.

GRAPE CULTURE.

By Wm. Fox, Baraboo.

PLANTING.

The ground should be well plowed and thoroughly harrowed. Plant eight or ten feet apart. In my own experience I have found that in rainy and unfavorable seasons thickly planted vines suffered much more than those which had plenty of room. I plant in rows so as to get the benefit of horse power in cultivation.

VARIETIES.

For profit I would plant black grapes, as follows: Moore's Early. I believe in this variety. It ripens evenly and well. All dealers inform me that they sell well in market. Next in order is Concord and Worden. The Worden has not borne out its reputation with me.

Of red grapes I have had good success with the Delaware and Brighton. They are both of fine quality. I also think that the Early Vicks is quite desirable.

Of forty-two kinds of new grapes in my vineyard the last year, Moore's Early and Missouri Reissling made the best growth of ripened wood.

WHITE GRAPES.

The White Lady bears well, is very healthy in leaf and wood when well rooted. Prentiss and Duchess are better quality but too late in my locality. There is no profit in any of Roger's hybrids.

PRUNING YOUNG VINES.

I cut them back until well rooted and strong. Some varieties, such as Moore's Early, Missouri Reissling, Concord and Worden, need less pruning as they are naturally strong.
rooted varieties. Early Victor, Delaware and Lady need a longer time to root.

After my vineyard was well established, I used both the spur and the renewal systems. In my younger years on the banks of the Rhine we worked on the spur system. I have found that all methods need some correction. The renewal system has given me but little satisfaction. I find that a sort of mixture or compromise of the two systems gives me the most and best fruit.

In the spring uncover vines, allow them to lie until dry and tie to stakes. I use from four to six stakes to each vine. They should be tied up very carefully so that each cam and spur will rest upon the stakes and not upon each other. This is essential on account of convenience of summer pruning and picking fruit. It will also permit the fruit to develop better in form and color and thus make it more saleable.

SUMMER PRUNING.

I use no knife, only my fingers for this purpose. I let the suckers grow and cut them back in the fall to two or three buds; pinch all the laterals away after fruit sets well; I leave one leaf behind each cluster of grapes. My aim is to raise a moderate amount of wood and crop of fruit at the same time.

Some years ago I found my Delawares dropping leaves. I bought some salt and scattered a few hands full about the roots of each vine. It worked well. I have tried it since with excellent results.

FALL PRUNING.

When the fruit is gathered and the leaves fallen, I begin without delay to do my fall pruning. I never use knife or shears without looking the vine over carefully as haste is very apt to be waste. I save healthy canes with good, firm, healthy spurs, cutting the spurs back to three buds. Of the suckers which were cut back the year before, I leave one or two if they are strong and healthy and cut the old ones with rough spurs out. On strong roots I leave four canes; on others, less; according to their capacity. When the pruning is done I cover the vines with straw and dirt.